

EIMS & SIF News

December 2006

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Special points of interest:

- **Page Not Cannot Be Displayed message to be fixed for 12/8/06.**
- **December 9th to 10th planned EIMS outage for Oracle patch.**
- **FULL DATA UPLOAD deadline extended to 12/15 due to Page Cannot Be Displayed errors**

I believe this year was the conference's biggest event. As far as EIMS and SIF is concerned there were not four, but five presentations!

The Future of SASI featured a facilitated panel of distinguished representatives from the VA school divisions—D. Nissley, M. Burnet, G. Young, K. Harrison—that posed questions to Mike Rhein, the Nat'l Sales Mgr. from Pearson and Julie Albanese, SASI Product Mgr. The rumor that SASI is dead is exagger-

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ated; it will continue to be a supported for the future—SASI 8.0 coming 12/06 and summer 2007. SIF support will continue for eSchool and SMS. That said, they will migrate School to existing SASI users and SMS to large divisions.

Birds-of-a-Feather was a recap of what 6.0, which included a demo of the Audit drill down to the record level. Also, what is the Jan. maintenance release and major May/June.

Just SIF featured speakers Steve Setzer, Edustructures and Vince Paredres, SIFA, reviewing SIFA organization, the 2.0 specification just released and a push for divisions to sign up for DOE's vertical SIF program (FREE SIF SOFTWARE, INSTALLATION & MORE!).

Vertical to Horizontal SIF Implementation was awesome! School divisions from Botetourt, Madison, Loudoun and Spotsylvania represented by A. Sweeney, M. Otten, B. Sestito and L. Rooney answered question posed by Steve Setzer regarding their experiences in implementing the SIF agents for Active Directory, library, transportation and cafeteria systems. The entire sentiment of the session was summed up wonderfully when Andrea was asked, **"What advice would you give divisions thinking about bring up horizontal applications?"** Her reply was, **"What are you waiting for?"**

SIFA University demonstrated the SIFA sponsored course, SIF Basics. Vince Paredres showed the audience how to log in and navigate the system. The group was also shown the quiz at the end of one of the modules. Also, a request was made to create a Supt.-Friendly presentation materials to help explain SIF and its benefits. DOE will comply and make it available to all divisions. **Contact me if you want to take the**



Conf.

product line 9.0 in the SASI, Powerket Power-the very

was in Rel. Report—w/ planned in release in

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Three New EIMS WebEx Tutorials Available

They run from 4 to 9 minutes and **are worth your time to review** them to learn about the latest EIMS enhancements.

EIMS Audit Report; EIMS Quick Click Categories Update and EIMS Reports Update.

Go to: <https://vadoe.webex.com/vadoe/mywebex/default.php?Rnd9217=0.19804940909363255> and click on Recorded Sessions to scroll down to them.

SIF Support

There was some confusion about who to call if something goes wrong with SIF. If you are in the **process of implementation** you would call your Edustructures' contact. **After you are up** and running and have a problem or questions about your SIF call the Reporting Solutions number at 888-269-5242 or email reportingsolutions@pearson.com, so they can log and track the problem to resolution.

Latest Student Locator Framework (SLF)

ATTENTION SIF USERS

The latest version of the Student Locator Framework (SLF) is now available to download. Log into SLF console and click Update and it done!

The update fixes some intermittent problems and improves performance significantly. Note: the interface is very different, so don't panic.

Edustructures requested if there is any interest in SIF refresher training. [Email me to let me know your interest.](#)



StarStudent Agent Pilot

Pretty soon we will be piloting a vertical implementation of the StarStudent agent. Although, the write-back feature to put the STI into the SIS will not be available until February Mecklenburg enthusiastically

agreed to be the first VA division. This will also be the first StarStudent installation for Edustructures, so it should be interesting. I will keep you all abreast of the status as we move forward.

VA SIF Interest Group Launched

SIFA has agreed to host the **VA SIF Interest Group**.

The association is formed for the purpose of exchanging experiences regarding SIF implementation and best practices. In addition, there will be committees regarding Vertical activities, Horizontal activities and SIF agent development, as well as SIFA monitoring committee—Watchdog—to keep the other committees aware of SIFA activities.

Vertical Committee Charter

Promote the expansion of vertical SIF and the use of the Vertical Reporting Framework for state reporting, student records and assessments.

Horizontal Committee Charter

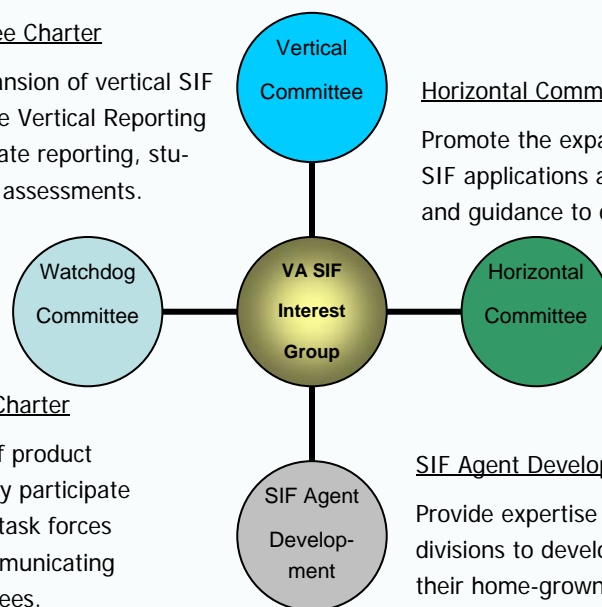
Promote the expansion of horizontal SIF applications and provide advice and guidance to other divisions.

Watchdog Committee Charter

Monitor the activities of product certification and actively participate in SIFA committees or task forces for the purpose of communicating with the other committees.

SIF Agent Development Charter

Provide expertise and advice for divisions to develop SIF agents for their home-grown applications.







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YES, WE'RE ON THE WEB AT:

[HTTP://WWW.PEN.K12.VA.US/](http://www.pen.k12.va.us/)

[VDOE/TECHNOLOGY/EIMS/](http://www.pen.k12.va.us/vdoe/technology/eims/)



course at **SIFA-U** for your **ID** and **Password**.